

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Daniel R. Ebert, Chairperson Robert M. Garvin, Commissioner Mark Meyer, Commissioner 610 North Whitney Way P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854

For Immediate Release – April 15, 2005

Contact: Linda Barth (608) 266-9600

PSC Public Hearings Set for April 22 On WP&L Rates

MADISON - The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) will hold public hearings in Madison, Janesville and Fond du Lac on Friday, April 22nd regarding Wisconsin Power and Light Company's (WP&L) request to increase electric and natural gas service rates.

The public hearings are held to gather public comment on WP&L's rate request. WP&L is seeking to increase electric service rates by approximately \$92.2 million and increase gas rates by about \$5.5 million. WP&L proposes an 18.4 percent increase for residential customers, a 13.2 percent increase for commercial customers and a 2.2 percent increase for industrial customers.

In a rate case, the PSC audits the utility's operating expenses to determine the revenue necessary to provide reliable service. The Commission also determines the rate-of-return for investors, balancing the investment needs of the utility along with minimizing any impact on ratepayers. In making its decision, the Commission can approve the application as submitted, modify WP&L's request or deny the application.

Citizens are encouraged to attend the public hearings to provide customer input concerning the rate increases. All public testimony will be included in the record the Commissioners review while making final decisions. The live public hearing will be held in Madison and videoconference hearings will be held in Janesville and Fond du Lac.

Friday, April 22, 2005 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Public Service Commission Building 610 N. Whitney Way Amnicon Falls Hearing Room – First Floor Madison, Wisconsin UW-Rock County Room A131 in Andrews Hall 2909 Kellogg Ave. Janesville, Wisconsin Moraine Park Technical College Room A203 (enter through C Building) 235 N. National Ave. Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

All locations are accessible to people in wheelchairs. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Mary McIIwee, Docket Coordinator, at (608) 267-7915.

Telephone: (608) 266-5481 Fax: (608) 266-3957 TTY: (608) 267-1479 Home Page: http://psc.wi.gov E-mail: pscrecs@psc.state.wi.us

The documents associated with WP&L's application can be viewed on our Electronic Repository System at http://psc.wi.gov/. Click on ERF System, select Search Electronic Repository System and enter docket 6680-UR-114.

(END)